AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

(Twice Amended) A therapeutic combination for promoting wound healing in mammals, comprising:

a porous pad which is permeable to fluids <u>and adapted</u> for positioning within a sealable space defined in part by a wound surface;

a tube having a first end in fluid communication with said porous pad;

a canister for collecting fluids sucked through said tube, said canister being connected in fluid communication with a second end of said tube which is opposite the first end of said tube;

a suction pump for applying negative pressure to said tube, said suction pump being fluidically connected to said canister through a hose; and

at least one bacterial filter [being] interposed [between] said canister and said pump.

7. (Twice Amended) A therapeutic combination as claimed in claim 6 wherein said foam is a polyether reticulated foam having at least 95% [of] interconnecting cells.

8. (Twice Amended) A therapeutic combination as claimed in claim 1 [wherein the dressing is] further comprising an elastomeric film [which] dressing for securing said porous pad within said sealable space, wherein said dressing is coated at least in the peripheral areas with a pressure-sensitive adhesive and said [foam is] pad comprises a reticulated foam having at least 90% [of] interconnecting cells.